Reply of Government.—Yes, as funds permit. This is a matter also for local agricultural associations.

SUBJECT No. 112.

Text-book on agriculture.

(*a*) Mr. K. Krishnachar, Seringapatam Taluk.
(*b*) Mr. V. Raghavachar, Mysore Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) A Kannada book on agriculture will be of advantage to zamindars. The want of such a book is badly felt.

(*b*) A book on agriculture may be published both in English and Kannada as has been done in the British Provinces. It should explain the various local methods of agriculture and the time and manner of each agricultural operation.

Reply of Government.—It is not possible for Government to undertake the publication of such a treatise. Agricultural information of much value is given in the Revenue and Agricultural Gazette and the "Vakkaligara Patrika" of the Vakkaligara Sangha. A careful perusal of the matter contained in these periodicals is sure to be profitable. Separate bulletins are also issued on agricultural subjects and it will be more useful to translate them as they are issued, than to deal with the whole subject in a single book.

SUBJECT No. 113.

Sale of coffee kharab lands.

Mr. Siddegowda, Mudgere Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Coffee kharab lands applied for for cultivation may, in cases in which there is no objection from the neighbouring land owners and others, be given to the applicant for the usual upset price of Rs. 10 per acre, instead of being put up for sale by auction as at present. This measure will save much delay in getting the required lands.

Messrs. Crawford and Fowke.—It would be very undesirable to give the lands for an upset price.

It is necessary that they should be sold in order that Government may be able to realize a fair price for the land and that it may not pass into the hands of persons who do not wish to cultivate it.

Reply of Government.—Rule 6 of the rules for the grant of lands for coffee and cinchona cultivation provides for exceptional treatment in cases of hardship and no change is called for.

SUBJECT No. 114.

Ways and water courses in coffee estates.

Mr. B. Sitaramaiya, Chikmagalur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—There are certain pathways and water courses in coffee estates which though not shown in village maps are in use for a long time. In some instances the owners of the estates obstruct these pathways and the water courses and cause great inconvenience and loss to the public and to their neighbours. In such cases, it may be ordered that the Amildar should personally inspect the estates, and promptly dispose of the matter.

Reply of Government.--No such general rule can be passed. Questions relating to rights of way primarily belong to civil courts. When local officers interfere in such matters for the convenience of the people they have to take care that each case is properly investigated and they do not unnecessarily encroach upon the jurisdiction of civil courts.

SUBJECT NO. 115.

Fifty yards rule in respect of water courses in coffee land.

Mr. T. Narasinga Rao, North Mysore Native Planters' Association.

Summary of discussion.—The restriction laid down by Government regarding the cultivation of a margin of 50 yards on either side of streams may be reconsidered.

Reply of Government.—The subject has been finally disposed of and cannot be re-opened.

SUBJECT NO. 116.

Cess on coffee.

Messrs. T. Narasinga Rao, North Mysore Native Planters' Association, and C. Vasudeva Rao, Chikmagalur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The North Mysore Native Planters' Association is not in favor of the levy of the cess on coffee which the European planting community in Mysore is urging on the Government of India for the popularization of coffee. If the question should come up before Government, it is requested that the native planters, who form a large majority and own a much greater extent of coffee land than the European community and who also produce by intensive cultivation more maunds to the acre, may be consulted before any decision is arrived at. The cess need not be levied as it will not improve prices. Indian planters form only a small fraction of coffee producers in the world and as the prices depend entirely upon the Brazil market, Indian coffee can hold its own, only if its quality is superior. The cess is intended to be applied in advertising it. If it were to advertise Mysore coffee only, there can be no objection.

There are altogether 140,000 acres under coffee cultivation in Mysore. Of these, 100,000 are in the holding of Indians. They sell most of their coffee locally as they find it more profitable to do so. Many of the small coffee planters are able to increase the produce by intensive cultivation and as the cess is nine pies per maund or three annas per cwt., they will have to pay the cess in a higher proportion. The cess is moreover intended to popularize coffee of every description and not merely Indian coffee.

Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao.—Indian coffee is exported to France and other places. The cess will popularize coffee in England. Messrs. Volkart Brothers and others who buy coffee locally export it chiefly to foreign countries. The cess will therefore mean a loss of price to Indian producers. Removal of all duties on coffee will produce better results.

Mr. Crawford.—Excepting the North Mysore Native Planters' Association, all other Planters, Native and Indian, are in favor of the cess. The cess will not be utilized merely in advertising the coffee in England, but